

# Kora Sands

Volume 39, No.1

Spring 2024



## "SPREAD THE WORD!"





## KORA SHRINE CENTER

11 Sabattus Street  
Lewiston, Maine 04240-7090

Fax: 207-782-2870

**207-782-6831**

**www.korashriners.org**

### OFFICE HOURS

**Mon-Thurs 7:30am to 4:30pm**  
closes daily between 12:30 and 1:30

**Closes at noon on Fridays**



## ELECTIVE DIVAN

Potentate ..... Paul Gardner  
Chief Rabban ..... Michael Zubiate  
Assistant Rabban ..... Michael Robitaille  
High Priest & Prophet..... Frank Welch, Jr.  
Oriental Guide ..... Barry Irish  
Treasurer ..... Barry J. Gates, P.P.  
Recorder..... John R. Knox, P.P.

## APPOINTIVE DIVAN

1st Ceremonial Master..... Ryan Sherman  
2nd Ceremonial Master..... Ben Weisner  
Marshal ..... Gordon Kimball, Jr.  
Captain of the Guard ..... E. Andy Caron  
Outer Guard..... Michael Klick  
Chaplain..... Eugene Tanguay  
Ceremonial Director..... Robert Farrington  
Chief of Staff..... Steven Peterson

## HEADS OF UNITS

Units Colonel ..... \*\*\*  
Units Lt. Colonel..... \*\*\*  
Aides – Chief..... Al Milburn  
Arab Patrol ..... Richard Libby  
Band ..... Cal Yeaton  
Buccaneers..... Eugene Tanguay  
Crazy Cops ..... William Brochu  
Cycle Corps ..... Leonard Perkins  
Drifters..... Jaison Hall  
Facts and Figures..... Bo Clark  
Funsters..... Adam Tanguay  
Greeters..... Jason Davis  
Highlanders..... Chester Matthews  
Karts ..... Matt Ouellette  
Klowns ..... Ryan Robitaille  
Legion of Honor ..... Michael Clinton  
Log Rollers..... Richard Norcross  
Medical Unit..... David Saphier  
Mini Racers ..... John Mellor  
Mopeds ..... James Fairfield  
Motor Corps..... Thomas Budek  
Provost ..... Jeffrey Peaslee  
Renegades..... Ron Bolduc  
Second Section..... Brian Craig

## E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Potentate (Paul Gardner) ..... potentate@korashriners.org  
Recorder (John Knox, P.P.) ..... recorder@korashriners.org  
Office Manager (Kate Hansen) ..... khansen@korashriners.org  
Webmaster (Marc DeBlois) ..... webmaster@korashriners.org  
Kora Sands ..... sands@korashriners.org

## HOSPITAL INFORMATION

Shriner's Childrens – Boston ..... 617-722-3000  
Member Board of Governors..... John H. Gailey, PP  
..... David Saphier  
..... Charles Bonney  
Associate Member ..... Rob McKinley, PP  
Shriner's Children – New England ..... 800-322-5905  
Member Board of Governors..... Brent Tanguay, PP  
..... Randall Williams

## HEADS OF CLUBS/OTHER

Androscoggin County Shrine Club ..... Jeffrey Marcotte  
Brewers Club ..... Scott Ainsworth  
Cash Calendar Club ..... Gary Robinson  
Communications/Marketing Committee ..... Nathan Sessions  
Cumberland County Shrine Club ..... Wayne Whitney  
Donor Relations ..... Ben Weisner  
Feztival of Trees ..... Marc DeBlois / Bernie McAllister  
Foundation ..... Barry Gates, PP  
Hillbilly Club ..... Steve Zimmerman  
Hospital Committee ..... Tim Luttrell  
Insurance Committee ..... Dick Albert  
Kampers ..... Dan Beardsley  
Kare for Kids Ride-In ..... Brent Tanguay  
Kora DeMolay Council ..... Peter Provencher  
Kraftsman ..... Michael Blank  
Lobster Bowl ..... Joe Hersom  
Membership ..... Bo Clark  
Midcoast Shrine Club ..... \*\*\*  
Oxford County Shrine Club ..... Rob McKinley, P.P.  
Sportsmen Expo ..... Brian Ellis  
Trustees ..... Daniel Labrie  
Western Mountain Shrine Club ..... Glen Gibson  
Widows Club ..... Eileen Fales  
York County Shrine Club ..... William Smart

## KORA SANDS DEADLINES

April 15th, 2024~ to cover June, July, August  
July 15th, 2024 ~ to cover September, October, November  
October 15th, 2024 ~ to cover December, January, February  
January 15th, 2024 ~ to cover March, April, May

Please e-mail articles and photographs to:

**sands@korashriners.org**

**Kora Sands editor: Doreen Mason**

*Published four times a year by Kora Shrine Center*



## FROM THE DESK OF THE POTENTATE

by Illustrious Potentate Paul Gardner

Greetings All,

As I reflect on the excitement that was Installation weekend, I am truly humbled that Kora has chosen me to serve you as Potentate for 2024. Lady Michelle and I are most appreciative of all the warm wishes, congratulations, and offers of support. There are lots of great things in store for the coming year. Lady Michelle and I, along with your 2024 Divan, are looking forward to helping Kora "Do More in '24."

The calendar is starting to fill very quickly. Later in this issue you will find a listing of the major events for the year. Coming right up on March 9 is a Night with Motor Booty Affair. We had a great time last year, and they have agreed to journey back from the planet Funktar for another great evening. Stay tuned to the Kora Konnections for ticket information. Spring Ceremonial is March 23rd, and Basket Bingo is April 6th. Our annual Kora Sportsmen Outdoor Expo returns April 12-14. This is a significant fundraiser for Kora, and the committee has been working hard to make sure it is a success. If you have some time, they can use more volunteers. This goes for all our events; many hands make light work.

Summer Ceremonial this year will be June 7-9. Join us in Margaritaville (also known as the Fryeburg Fairgrounds) where we promise there will be cheeseburgers, margaritas, and maybe a shark or two.

Our theme for 2024 is "Spread the Word." We need to let people know about our mission of having fun and helping kids. Encourage people to sign up for and read the Kora Konnections. That's where you'll find the most up-to-date information. The Kora website has lots of information as well. Read the Sands! When you are done, pass it along. It could generate interest from a non-Noble who might be interested in joining us. I strongly believe that our future success depends on letting the public know who we are and what we do. We need to make the connection between the Shriners Hospital TV commercials, and Kora Shriners. To help these efforts, the Potentate and First Lady's project for this year will be the installation of an electronic message center sign at the corner of our parking lot. This will allow us to showcase Kora and provide information to the public travelling by. Thanks to the Kora Trustees, and several dedicated Nobles, plans are well underway.

It was truly a pleasure for Lady Michelle and I to work with Illustrious Sir Jim Bennett and Lady Deb. They set an example that will be hard to beat, and Illustrious Jim leaves some big shoes to fill. (No pun intended) Jim's hard work will help set Kora on the path to success for years to come.

Finally, I would like to welcome the newest member of your Divan. I have appointed Noble Michael Klick to serve as your 2024 Outer Guard. Mike has been a fixture at Kora for many years. He was part of the circus committee until the end. He is Emeritus Director of the Crazy Cops, after leading that unit for 17 years. Most folks probably know Mike as one of the driving forces in our kitchen. There haven't been many meals at Kora that he hasn't been involved with. He and Lady Melodie are excited to join the team and move Kora into the future. Congratulations Mike and Mel!

As always, I am here to serve you; let me know how I can help.



**Potentate Paul and Lady Michelle Gardner**



## "SPREAD THE WORD!"



## ***A Proclamation***

*Es Selamu Aleikum  
The call of the muezzin  
Cries out to all  
Ye poor sons of the desert  
It is the will of the Potentate  
That the  
Spring Ceremonial of Kora Temple,  
Ancient Arabic Order  
Of the Nobles of  
The Mystic Shrine,  
Be held at Kora Temple on  
Saturday, March 23rd*

*Doors Open at 9:00 a.m.*

*Business meeting followed by  
Ceremonial First Section*

*In the year of our Lord 2024  
Aleikum Es Selam  
Ill. Paul Gardner  
Illustrious Potentate*

*See the Detailed Agenda in this issue  
For registration information*

## **FROM THE RECORDER'S DESK.....**

*by John R. Knox, P.P., Recorder*

Greetings Nobles:

Congratulations to our Junior Past Potentate, Illustrious Jim Bennett and Lady Deb on this past year, and we anxiously look forward to 2024 with newly installed Illustrious Paul Gardner, Lady Michelle, and the rest of the Kora Officers. Welcome to Noble Mike Klick and Lady Melodie as they begin their travels!

The new year always brings a sense of excitement, and this year is showing a renewed feeling of commitment from our Nobles and Ladies as we end 2023 on a positive note financially and reasonable numbers on our membership rolls.

Timely payment of your dues and securing new active members is always important.

We always have room for improvement in membership numbers, and if a serious effort is put forth by everyone we could see positive growth for Kora in 2024.

Get your petitions out to those Master Masons you feel can make a contribution to Kora – an application form is printed in this SANDS – or they can also access our on-line application at [www.beashrinernow.com](http://www.beashrinernow.com). If you sponsor a candidate, we hope you will also agree to be their Mentor to help him through the membership process. Encourage their involvement in a Unit or Club, involve their spouse or partner, and be committed.

Membership is our life blood – let's keep it flowing!

Faternally,  
John R. Knox, P.P.  
Recorder



## **KORA Stated Meeting**

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Call the office to register (207) 782-6831

Followed by Business Meeting

**This is an excellent time to bring  
your Petitions for New Members  
for reading and balloting**

**We will conduct a COLD SANDS at the March 23rd Ceremonial**



## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RECORDER MEMBERSHIP – JANUARY 1, 2023 TO DECEMBER 31, 2023**

### **Beginning of the Year Membership Balances**

Regular: 1,466      Associates: 13      Total: 1,479

#### **Members Added**

#### **Members Removed**

Created:            32      Demitted:            7

Affiliated:           4      Suspended:           27

Restored:           17      Expired:            63

Expelled:            0

Resigned:           1

Associates:           3      Associates  
Dropped:            2

### **Total Additions and Removals**

Regular: -45      Associates: 1      Total: -44

### **End of the Year Membership Balances**

Regular: 1,421      Associates: 14      Total: 1,435

John R. Knox, PP

Recorder



**Kora Shrine Center**  
Operations Budget and Comparison  
Budget 2024 - Actual 2023

	<u>Budget 2024</u>	<u>Actual 2023</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>\$ 478,400</u>	<u>\$ 480,620</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
<b>Imperial Council</b>	58,600	39,593
<b>Administration and General</b>	117,100	110,022
<b>Building operations and maintenance</b>	178,000	166,157
<b>Business Sessions</b>	8,000	2,783
<b>Ceremonials</b>	42,000	37,902
<b>Entertainment - Social</b>	13,500	14,517
<b>Visitations &amp; Pilgrimages</b>	21,000	16,642
<b>Promotion &amp; Publicity</b>	32,000	27,243
<b>Unit Expenses</b>	6,500	7,210
<b>Charity &amp; Members Welfare</b>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>1,278</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>478,400</u>	<u>423,347</u>
<b>Contingency</b>	-	-
<b>Net Surplus/(loss)</b>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 57,273</u></u>

Barry Gates PP, Treasurer



# Kora Shriners 2024 Event Listings



<b>Feb 2</b>	<i>Unit Officers Installation</i>
<b>Mar 9</b>	<i>A Night with Motor Booty Affair</i>
<b>Mar 13</b>	<i>Stated Meeting</i>
<b>Mar 23</b>	<i>Spring Ceremonial</i>
<b>Apr 6</b>	<i>Basket Bingo</i>
<b>Apr 12-14</b>	<i>Kora Sportsmen Expo</i>
<b>June 8 – June 9</b>	<i>Summer Ceremonial @ Fryeburg Fairgrounds</i>
<b>July 20</b>	<i>Lobster Bowl @ Lewiston High</i>
<b>Aug 16 –Aug 18</b>	<i>Kora Ride In and BBQ Competition</i>
<b>Sept 12-15</b>	<i>NESA Fall Field Days – Kingston, ONT</i>
<b>Oct 14</b>	<i>Stated Meeting</i>
<b>Oct 19</b>	<i>Fall Ceremonial</i>
<b>Oct 25 – Oct 27</b>	<i>Anah, Bektash &amp; Kora Visitation, hosted by Anah</i>
<b>Nov 22 – Nov 30</b>	<i>FEZtival of Trees</i>
<b>Dec 7</b>	<i>Election of Officers and Christmas Party</i>
<b>Dec 13 – Dec 15</b>	<i>Oxford County Shrine Club FEZtival of Trees</i>
<b>Jan 11, 2025</b>	<i>2025 Installation of Officers</i>

*“Spread the Word!”*



*Kora Shriners*



## 2024 DIVAN



**Potentate Paul Gardner**



**Chief Rabban Michael Zubiato**



**Assistant Rabban Michael Robitaille**



**High Priest and Prophet Frank Welch, Jr**



**Oriental Guide Barry Irish**



**Treasurer III. Barry J. Gates**



**Recorder III. John R. Knox**



1st Ceremonial Master Ryan Sherman



2nd Ceremonial Master Ben Weisner



Marshal Gordon Kimball, Jr.



Captain of the Guard E. Andy Caron



Outer Guard Michael Klick



Chaplain Eugene Tanguay





2024 KORA DIVAN INSTALLATION





## 2024 KORA DIVAN INSTALLATION





*Kora Temple  
Spring Ceremonial  
March 23, 2024*

9:00 AM - Doors Open

10:00 AM - Business Meeting

10:00 AM - Ladies Program - Margarita Tasting - FREE  
but please register so we can get a headcount  
SALE - Gently used formal wear. Bring items  
in to sell & buy to benefit the Potentate's  
Project

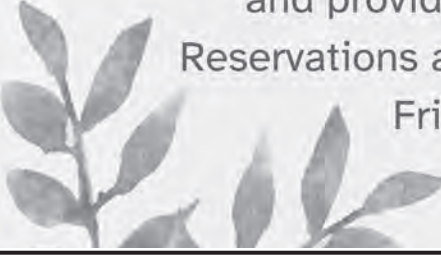
11:00 AM - First Section & Cold Sands

12:00 PM - Social Hour

1:00PM - Lunch by the Kora Kitchen Club  
Cost is \$10.00/person (lasagna, salad, rolls  
and cheesecake - For special dietary needs  
please contact the Kora Office)

You may register online at [www.korashriners.org](http://www.korashriners.org)  
or by calling the Kora office @ (207)782-6831  
and provide your payment information.

Reservations and payments will be taken until  
Friday, March 15, 2024





# Motor Booty Affair

## Lands at Kora Temple

March 4, 2023



### BIO

Motor Booty Affair has been lighting up stages across America with their 70's extravaganza for several years, continually improving on the show that has been dubbed "The Ultimate Disco Party Band".

The music is infectious - the most danceable songs of all time. The band is tighter than tight, delivering dance floor classics with confidence, groove, style and attitude. The show is spectacular - from the afros, bell-bottoms, platform shoes, polyester and dance moves, to the highest quality sound and light show this side of 1975.

Motor Booty Affair consists of 4 funkateers straight from the planet Funktar; Superfly, Spanish Fly, Vinnie Boom-Boom Funktonio and Cyclone Link Skywalker Jr. It is their mission to get the crowd groovin' as they deliver hits from Earth Wind & Fire, The Bee-Gees, KC and the Sunshine Band, Chic, The Commodores, Barry White, Abba and more. The songs are authentically reproduced by these top notch musicians with unsurpassed quality and attention to detail.

MBA's show is energetic and peppered with 70's lingo jive talkin' and stage antics to make for an event you will never forget. Make sure you bring your boogie shoes because no matter how big the dance floor is - it's always packed from the first song to the last!



This is surely going to be a special night at Kora. Tickets will go on sale February 1, 2024 for Kora Nobles only until February 13. On February 13, tickets will be available to the public. **The event is expected to sell out!** Don't wait. Please purchase your tickets online at [www.korashriners.org](http://www.korashriners.org) Anyone that does not have access or is experiencing difficulty may contact Kate at the Kora office for assistance.

Doors will open at 6:15 PM. The mother ship from Funktar is expected to land around 7:15 with the dance floor opening up shortly after.

**Tickets are \$25. This is a B.Y.O.B. event 21+**

Soda, Mixers, and Light Snacks will be available



*"Spread the Word!"*



## FEZtival of Trees

It is cold and the snow is coming down here in early January, giving us time to reflect on this year's FOT. The best way to describe the FEZtival this year, I think, is to use the word WOW. We significantly exceeded our fund-raising efforts with your continued support and commitment. Attendance was up by 30 percent over last year. Our change to entering in 15-minute time slots made the experience of the FOT so much more enjoyable.

We started this year's FOT with a moment of silence to honor Todd Olfene. The new chairs were dedicated to Todd and Vicky for their commitment to being Santa and Mrs. Claus. After the dedication ceremony, it was time for the 18th Annual FOT to get started, exactly as Todd would have wanted us to do.

We made some minor adjustment to the FEZtival this year as we always do.

- We were able to locate a new corporate sponsor for the lottery tree. The donation for sponsorship from MS Ambrogio allowed us to purchase \$500 in lottery tickets and we were able to raise over \$15,000 dollars.
- We added some members to be new Santas and their ladies to be Mrs. Claus this year, all of whom reported having a wonderful time.
- Our photo area set a record for photos.
- We should also give a shout out to the first year of having the Grinch at Kora. People loved seeing him and his antics that kept people laughing online and in person.
- A new record with our Fishpond. Moving it to the back of the hall appears to have been a help in reducing the congestion around the stage.
- As most know we added some new people in key roles, Noble Jarod White took over music and entertainment. He made some minor changes to the schedule which added the time to have new performers. He also has plans to expand next year's entertainment.
- Noble Dan Morin is the new Facility Manager, and the setup and tear down went as well as ever.
- Director of Personnel, Noble Randy William, has a new way of signing up volunteers. A program called Sign up Genius, after a few bugs were worked out, this is the way to go.





- With Noble Tom Campbell working on sponsorship, we had several new companies step forward and join our other sponsors.
- The Kora Legion continued to work as hard as possible to raise money with the 50/50.
- Noble Dan Guilmette, Noble Cal Yeaton, Lady Danielle Williams, and Lady Jackie Rybeck work on all the online and Sun Journal material really paid off.
- A shout out to the Kitchen Club who worked together countless hours to prep, prepare and cook unbelievably delicious items daily.
- Thanks to Noble Nate Sessions, we were able to reduce the fees related to admission tickets. There were a few issues with getting online to buy raffle tickets. We will continue to work to improve the online raffle ticket process this year.

We had a visit from Shriners and their ladies from New Jersey during the FEZtival. They were here to check out how we do it at Kora. Guides have been sent to a couple of Shrines throughout the county. We have connected with some that have been here and got our advice and have returned to their communities to follow the plan. It is always fun to see how many FOT there are sponsored by Shriners.

We would be remiss if we did not give a shout out to the outstanding job of our Decorating Committee who make the FEZtival the true premiere holiday event in Maine. What some call the simplicity and elegance of the stage, makes the climb up the stairs worthwhile. Once again GREAT JOB DECORATING COMMITTEE! This event would not be possible if we did not have the 30 plus members of this Committee and without their support all year long, this event would not achieve the success we have been able to achieve year after year.

On behalf of the 2023 FOT Committee

***Thank You for YOUR SUPPORT!***

Sincerely,

*Festival of Trees Committee 2023*



**Serving the best drinks in L/A and beyond**



## KORA Potentate Cruise 2024

Join Paul & Michelle Gardner on the Royal Caribbean Wonder of the Seas!

7-Night Eastern Caribbean & Perfect Day at CocoCay

Departing and returning Port Canaveral, FL May 12 - 19, 2024

Ports include Royal's private island - CocoCay in the Bahamas, Charlotte Amalie - St. Thomas, Philipsburg - St. Maarten, and 3 days of scenic Caribbean cruising.

Per Cabin Pricing based on Double Occupancy: Interior from \$2485, Boardwalk Balcony View from \$2820, and Ocean View Balcony Cabins from \$2940 (does not include Flights, Transfers, Pre or Post Cruise Hotel, Insurance, Gratuities, and some other amenities).

For more information or to register go to [www.cruiseplannersmaine.com/group/Potentate24](http://www.cruiseplannersmaine.com/group/Potentate24)

BOOK BY NOVEMBER 1, 2023 & Receive a \$50 Onboard Credit!



**Cruise Planners Maine - Tammy Wilson**

[www.cruiseplannermaine.com/group/Potentate24](http://www.cruiseplannermaine.com/group/Potentate24)  
[tammy.wilson@cruiseplanners.com](mailto:tammy.wilson@cruiseplanners.com) (207)8417015



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# ATTENTION TO ALL KORA MEMBERS

## PLEASE READ AND RESPOND WITH REQUESTED INFORMATION

The Recorder and the Office Manager are asking all members to review their current information through **WebFez** and provide updates if needed.

Our membership team has been telephoning Nobles to wish them Happy Birthday each month – and are finding MANY telephone numbers on file are out of service. We suspect many folks have done away with their land lines and now use cell phones – BUT have not notified the office of the change.

As we become more dependent on email for communications, we see that slightly over one-half of our members have up to date and accurate email addresses. There is also space to provide an email for your Lady if they have one as well. Very often we find the Ladies are great at sharing event information when they see it or read it – not so much our Nobles.

Please notify the office (207-782-6831) with any needed changes in personal data. An even easier way is to log on to the **WebFez** system and enter your changes directly in your record. For assistance logging on, feel free to call the Recorder for direction.

With everyone keeping your contact information current will help your Kora officers keep you updated on events and happenings.

### **Requested Information:**

current mailing address

current telephone (preferred number to use)

current email – for both the Noble and your Lady

current Lodge membership (what Lodge do you belong to)

Thank you!



# 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL KORA SHRINERS SPORTSMEN EXPO APRIL 12-14, 2024

Kora Shrine Center  
11 Sabattus Street, Lewiston, ME



## No Admittance Cost!

The Sportsmen Expo will feature vendors who promote outdoor activities for the entire family including hunting, fishing, skiing, and camping merchants as well as ATV, snowmobile and backyard game suppliers.

### NEW IN 2024:

**Youth ATV Safety Course**

### BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND:

- Comedian Juston McKinney
- Youth Hunter Safety Course

FOR MORE  
INFO VISIT  
[KORASHRINERS.ORG/  
SPORTS-EXPO](http://KORASHRINERS.ORG/SPORTS-EXPO)

**Win an  
Outdoor Activity  
Raffle Package  
50/50 Cash Raffle  
to be drawn on April 14<sup>th</sup>**



SCAN ME

Proceeds benefit the Kora Shrine and  
are not deductible as a charitable donation.



**Back By Popular Demand**  
Comedian Juston McKinney at the  
**Kora Temple in Lewiston, Maine**  
**on April 13, 2024**

There will be a ton of laughter and fun!

- General Admission: \$27.50
- LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE (300)
- Show Time: 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM
- Light Refreshments & Drink Sales Available
- 50/50 Raffle

**Tickets at: [korashriners.org/sports-expo/](https://korashriners.org/sports-expo/)**

***\*\*All net proceeds benefit  
Kora Shriners  
Sportsmen Expo\*\****

Thank you to  
**Bangor  
Savings Bank**  
**You matter more.®**

Member FDIC  
for Sponsoring this show



Dear Fellow Nobles and Friends of Kora,

As we embrace the vibrant energy of 2024, I am excited to share with you the renewed vision and commitment of the Kora Shriners' Marketing Committee under our Potentate's inspiring slogan, **"Spread the Word!"**

A significant part of our strategy this year involves leveraging our current communication systems, as well as innovating and introducing new methods to enhance our outreach. We recognize the importance of building and maintaining strong relationships with local media outlets. These partnerships are crucial in ensuring your events, fundraisers, and the latest news reach a wider audience. By assisting our units and clubs in promoting their activities, we aim to foster a more cohesive and vibrant Kora community.

Our committee is dedicated to enhancing the ways we communicate within Kora. We are actively exploring innovative solutions to ensure that important information is shared, and that it resonates across our community quickly and effectively. The goal is simple but profound – to ensure that every member feels informed, engaged, and part of our collective journey. Furthermore, we strive to better communicate and educate the general public about who we are and what we do, enhancing their understanding and appreciation of our mission.

We understand that the true essence of our fraternity is the bond we share, the smiles we bring to children's faces, and the difference we make in our communities. It is this essence that we aim to capture and communicate through our channels.

Your feedback and suggestions are invaluable to us. Please feel free to reach out to me directly at [webmaster@korashriners.com](mailto:webmaster@korashriners.com) with your thoughts, ideas, or even words of encouragement. Together, we can ensure that our communication informs and inspires.

As we move forward with our mission to "Spread the Word," let's do so with the knowledge that every word we share strengthens our bond and amplifies our impact.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication. Here's to a year filled with joy, camaraderie, and effective communication!

Sincerely,

Nathan Sessions  
Webmaster & Chair of Marketing Committee  
Kora Shriners



ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY SHRINE CLUB  
presents

# *Basket Bingo*

Featuring

## Longaberger Baskets®

(Retired baskets)

### Saturday, April 6, 2024

Kora Shrine Temple

11 Sabattus Street, Lewiston

\$15.00 in advance

\$20.00 at the door

Doors Open at 8:30 a.m.

Games Begin at 9:30 a.m.

*Regular Bingo / Blackout Bingo / Raffles*

Tickets available at Kora Shrine Center

For more information, call the Shrine at (207) 782-6831

Refreshments available for purchase

Proceeds benefit the Androscoggin County Shrine Club  
The Longaberger Company does not endorse nor sponsor this Basket Bingo event.



## MAINE SHRINE LOBSTER BOWL CLASSIC

Joe Hersom, President

Though the planning and coordination of the 2024 and 34th Annual Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic has begun, the 'Board of Governors' of the Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic would like to thank the Kora Shriner's Divan, along with the Units, Clubs, and Nobles who assisted in the great success of our 2023 event. Because of you, as well as the amazing fundraising efforts from the participants of this great game, the MSLBC recently presented a check in the record-breaking amount of \$50,000 to both Shriners Children's Boston and Shriners Children's New England hospitals for a total hospital donation on behalf of Kora Shriners and the Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic of \$100,000!!!



Noble Brian Strout (Anah Shriners), Ill. Brent Tanguay, (Kora Shriners), Noble Joe Hersom (MSLBC President), Stacy Perlmutter (SCNE), Ill. Jesse Thomas (Anah Shriners).



Shiva Damghany (SCB), Ill. John Gaily (Anah), Noble Charles Bonney (Kora Shriners), David Foye (Aleppo Shriners), Ill. Rob McKinley (Kora Shriners).

With the start of the New Year, the entire MSLBC committee is excited to get to work on raising the bar again in 2024! Nominations and selections of the best high school senior football players and cheerleaders for the 34th annual event is currently underway, and 2024 rosters will be announced in the coming weeks! Stay tuned to find out who your local athlete is, and I encourage you to help them with their fundraising efforts for our great hospitals!

For any Noble who may be interested in being involved, the Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic committee meets on the first Monday of each month, promptly at 6pm, at Kora Temple in Lewiston. Please reach out to [lobsterbowl@korashriners.org](mailto:lobsterbowl@korashriners.org) for more information.

### 2024 Schedule of Events:

#### **Sunday, April 7th, 2024: 2024 MSLBC Team Meeting (Kora Shrine Temple, Lewiston, ME)**

Participating athletes and coaches from across the State of Maine meet to learn and understand the true meaning of the Game and what they are playing for.

#### **Saturday, July 13th, 2024: 19th Annual Lobster Bowl Golf Tournament (The Meadows, Litchfield, ME)**

Join us for this fun annual event and to support the participants of the 2024 Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic! Does your Unit or Club want to be a hole sponsor, enter a team, or volunteer to help? Reach out to Joe Hersom for more info! [lobsterbowl@korashriners.org](mailto:lobsterbowl@korashriners.org)

#### **Friday, July 19th, 2024: 2024 MSLBC Awards Banquet (Anah Shrine Temple, Bangor, ME)**

Athletes and coaches are honored for their selection to participate in the premiere high school sporting event in the State of Maine while also being recognized for their fundraising accomplishments.

#### **Saturday, July 20th, 2024: 34th Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic (Lewiston High School, Lewiston, ME)**

The grand daddy of them all!!! Come watch the excitement and competition of the best high school senior football and cheer athletes from across the State at the beautiful complex at Lewiston High School, right in the home of our Kora Shrine Temple!



**NET PROCEEDS ARE FOR THE BENEFIT OF SHRINER'S HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN**



*"...Strong legs run so that Weak legs may walk..."*

**19th ANNUAL LOBSTER BOWL GOLF CLASSIC**

**SATURDAY, JULY 13th, 2024**

**Registration @ 8:00am**

**Tee Time @ 9:00am**

**SCRAMBLE BEST BALL FORMAT**

The Meadows Golf Club: 495 Huntington Hill Rd, Litchfield, ME

**Please select from the following:**

☐ I would like to register a 4-person team and a hole sponsorship  
**\$600.00**

☐ I would like to register a 4-person team only  
**\$500.00**

☐ I would like to register for a hole sponsorship only  
**\$150.00**

**PLAYER:**

**NAME:**

**Player #1**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Player #2**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Player #3**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Player #4**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Team Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_



*Please send and make checks payable to:* **Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic**

**11 Sabattus St., Lewiston, ME 04240**

For more information or questions, please contact:

JoeHersom (207)735-7723 lobsterbowl@korashriners.org



## Shriners Children's

# Samyuktha's Healing Journey After Burn Injury

Samyuktha was 7 when she was badly burned near her home in Chennai, India, in December of 2019. She was lighting lamps with her grandmother during the annual festival of light, wearing one of her favorite long gowns. As Samyuktha continued lighting the lamps, she did not realize that her gown had caught on fire. The flames quickly spread across her body and the family rushed her to a nearby hospital, where she stayed in the intensive care unit for three months. During that acute phase of her recovery, Samyuktha had approximately 20 surgeries to address her wounds.



After she returned home, Samyuktha's family sought help from the Children's Burn Foundation as they explored advanced treatment options for her injuries. The foundation identified Shriners Children's Boston as the best place for pediatric burn care. The foundation connected her family with Shriners Children's Boston and care manager Sandy Barrett. "We were fortunate to come in contact with Sandy, who really stepped in to help us," said her father, Rajarajan. "She made a huge difference in guiding us to get the right care for Samyuktha at Shriners."

The family arrived at Shriners Children's Boston in May 2021, about a year and a half after her injury. Samyuktha began outpatient care and continued her rehabilitation. During this phase of her recovery, doctors in Boston continued to perform surgeries as needed.

Since her accident, Samyuktha has gone through multiple surgeries, including skin grafts, releases, z-plasty and laser treatments, both in India and in Boston. She will require further surgeries and ongoing laser treatments at Shriners Children's Boston as she gets older.

"While there are so many involved in helping Samyuktha at Shriners, the names we will never forget are care manager Sandy Barrett, plastic surgeon Dr. Branko Bojovic, and physical therapist Hilary Smith," said Rajarajan. "They have made a huge difference in Samyuktha's life and continue to help her get through this." More than anything, Rajarajan explained, her care team is helping Samyuktha get back to experiencing life as a typical 10-year-old with varied interests.

Samyuktha's family was fortunate to have a support system in addition to their team at Shriners Children's to help them all cope with her accident and hospitalization. "We really wish no one such an experience for their loved ones, especially the kids they love," said Rajarajan. "It was not easy, but we had a lot of support from family and friends to get through the horrible times."

As Samyuktha continues to heal, her family has words of advice and encouragement for others experiencing a similar situation. "For anyone who has to face such an unfortunate situation, the only thing we want to say is to have faith in the powers beyond us, and keep focusing on getting the right treatment and environment for your child," said Rajarajan. "Also, give your children confidence and try to keep them engaged, so they get the distraction needed from the surgeries and the pain they have to go through."

Now 10, Samyuktha is an avid reader. Fantasy and nonfiction are her favorite genres. In addition to reading, she also enjoys drawing and crafts, and swimming. Her family is so grateful to Shriners Children's for helping Samyuktha return to the activities that she enjoyed prior to her burn injury.

"We would like to thank everyone at Shriners for being so kind and supporting Samyuktha through the toughest period," said Rajarajan. The family knows that Samyuktha will still have additional surgeries as she grows, but with continued care and the promise of medical advancements, Samyuktha is moving along on her path to get "back to her beautiful best," said Rajarajan.



## Shriners Children's

### Henry's Forever Smile

Henry's Shriners Children's Boston story started before he was born. His mother, Meghann, had an anatomy scan when she was 20 weeks pregnant, revealing her son's diagnosis: a cleft lip and cleft palate.

"I met with a doctor and she recommended Shriners Children's Boston for cleft lip and palate care," said Meghann. The condition, typically diagnosed during an ultrasound, gives doctors a head start in mapping out a care plan.

Facial clefts form in the womb and are the No. 1 craniofacial birth difference treated at Shriners Children's. A cleft lip forms when the lip does not properly develop, causing a newborn's smile to split. A cleft palate is the result of tissues on the roof of a child's mouth not fusing. If the conditions are not fixed, they can affect breathing, speaking, eating and appearance. "Very early in a child's development, these segments don't meet up properly and that leads up to these fissures and clefts that we know of as cleft lip and palate," explained Jay Austen, M.D., a plastic surgeon on the cleft and craniofacial team at Shriners Children's Boston and chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery at MassGeneral Brigham. The Shriners Children's Boston Cleft and Craniofacial Center is a collaborative program with MassGeneral Hospital for Children.

Patients will receive a comprehensive care plan to meet their clinical and developmental needs. In a single visit, patients have access to plastic surgeons, speech pathologists, orthodontists and dietitians. "You may only need one of us, you may need five of us, you'll need us at different points in your child's life, but you know that's what we're here for," said Dr. Austen.

In June 2022, when he was just 4 months old, Henry had his cleft lip repaired, followed by surgery to address his cleft palate the following November.

Meghann credits Dr. Austen with helping her family prepare for Henry's hospital stays. "We were all stressed out about the upcoming surgery and the recovery. Dr. Austen made it seem like everything would be okay," she noted. "That was helpful to have his perspective of 'this is something the hospital has done for a long time, and this is not something to be afraid of or worry about.'" Meghann said Dr. Austen's optimism and positivity helped the family throughout the treatment process.

Patients in the cleft and craniofacial program benefit from clinicians who routinely treat cleft lip and palate conditions. "That's one of the many great things about the Shriners cleft lip and palate program. We have a world-class team dedicated to not only doing this work, but doing it together to make it not just the best care, but the easiest care for the families," said Dr. Austen.

Meghann shared that the clinical team, especially Sandy Barrett, a nurse care manager, was a great resource. Nurse care managers and social workers are available during and in between appointments, to support patients and their caregivers with the answers to questions associated with craniofacial conditions. "Sandy, who has helped us with coordinating appointments, has been helpful. Anytime I email her a question, she is so responsive."

Henry is a happy and active toddler who loves playing with airplanes and trucks. "We call him 'Wreck-It Ralph,' he's like a bull in a china shop, he loves to have fun," joked Meghann. Henry also loves listening to music, especially with his grandfather. "My dad will watch music videos with him. Every time he hears music, he's drawn to it."

Meghann gets emotional when describing how important the Shriners Children's Boston music therapists were to her son. "I remember the first time he had his lip done, they had a woman playing guitar," said Meghann. "She was singing Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star." Pediatric-trained music therapists tailor each session to fit the child's needs. The sessions can help provide comfort during a procedure, act as a distraction to help with pain management, or improve a child's sleeping patterns. Music therapists work directly with a child's care team to understand their individual goals and monitor progress.

Meghann urges young families who have received a similar diagnosis to take advantage of early intervention and other resources provided at Shriners Children's Boston. "We have a speech therapist who works with Henry. In the beginning, it was help with feeding with the cleft palate, which was challenging," Meghann explained. "Once he had the palate repair, just making sure he was able to feed, then transition from formula to solids."

Even though the process has been challenging, Meghann explained that it is manageable. "From the start to finish, it has been great working with the team at Shriners Children's Boston. We've always felt like the team is helpful and accommodating. They have the best interests of Henry in mind."



Henry and his parents at the Boston Haunted Walk in 2023.



***Are you interested in being a committee member?***

***Do you love the Shrine? And the building too?***

***Would you like to see it around for generations?***

## **Then come join The Kora Wills and Trusts Committee!**

The Kora Wills and Trust Committee is formed to help inform the members and the public about Kora Temple and how they can leave a legacy through charitable giving, wills and or trusts.

For More Information:

Please contact Ben Weisner at 207-514-5453 or [benweisner@hotmail.com](mailto:benweisner@hotmail.com)



# KORA DEMOLAY COUNCIL RED SOX RAFFLE

**Win 4 Tickets to  
Boston Red Sox  
Home Game  
and more!**



## MORE PRIZES INCLUDE:

**RED SOX HATS  
AND SHIRTS ORDERED  
TO SIZE UP TO \$150**

**ONE NIGHT  
STAY AT SHERATON  
ON DALTON ST**

**LOBSTER  
DINNER FOR 4**  
(Including 4 lobsters, clams, potato  
salad and blueberry pie)

**Tickets are \$10 each or \$20 for 3**  
Purchase tickets at [redsox.maineonlineraffles.com](https://redsox.maineonlineraffles.com)

**Winning ticket will be drawn on March 1st, 2024**

**Tickets on sale now through February 29th**



## KORA BUCCANEERS

*by Gene Tanguay, Director*

Happy 2024! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season filled with Family, Friends and Wonderful Memories.

I want to thank everyone for coming to Kora's Annual Meeting as it is a time for all of us to commit to make the fraternity better, not just make it last another year, but to finish the year in better condition than the previous year.

The Buccaneers would like to congratulate Illustrious Sir Jim Bennett and First Lady Deb for a wonderful year and doing their part, as they worked to improve Kora Shrine. Their dedication to the fraternity can be seen throughout the building. The Kora team really backed them.

I am very proud to have stood in line for the Buccaneers during the Parade of Checks as we were able to make a \$1900 financial impact to Kora Shrine and Shriners Children's. We look forward to seeing our paver in the Silent Messenger walkway when the next phase of bricks get installed.

Now we have a new Potentate, Illustrious Paul Gardner and Lady Michelle. We wish them well with their new year and look forward to some wonderful activities and events they have scheduled for all of us at Kora. Please join us in helping them to have a successful 2024.

## KORA HIGHLANDERS

*by Chet Matthews, Chief Highlander*



La' Math (good day) Noble Lads & Lassies

As we begin another year, we must first offer a big WELL DONE and THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES to now Past Potentate Jim Bennett and the 2023 Divan and offer congratulations to Illustrious Paul Gardner and the 2024 Divan.

As our first official performance of the year, we were proud to work with the Second Section during the Necrology once again, in remembrance of those Nobles who passed in 2023.

We now turn our attention to the upcoming parade and performance season which for us will kick-off with our Saint Patrick's Day events. On or near March 17th.

For those new Nobles who may not know us The Kora Highlanders Pipe and Drum Corps is a vibrant and colorful traditional military style unit comprised of a dedicated group of Nobles augmented by a similarly dedicated group of guest musicians and steadfastly supported by our Highlander Ladies. While we have a few new pipers and drummers in training we are actively looking to add to our ranks.

While we take great pride in supporting Kora and our Hospitals through our music we also take pride in doing it well and making sure we have fun doing it. So, if you're curious about us or think the Highlanders may be the place for you, plan to visit us at one of our practice sessions in the Highlander Room at the Shrine Center to share a wee dram and learn more about us. The Highlanders meet most Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. or contact Chief Highlander, Chet Matthews (207) 841-2474, cwmatt@comcast.net or any Highlander.

Until next time, Slainte mhath (good health) and Sealbh m ath dhuit (good luck)



The Highlanders enter the Hall for the Necrology



Pipe Major, Everett Kaherl, P.P. leads.



## MOTOR CORPS

*By Kevin T. Cole, Scribe*

This photo is of a gorgeous 1968 Chevrolet Camaro, which is owned by Noble Anthony Richardson of Livermore. On the occasion of his graduation from high school in 2002, Anthony was given this sweet ride by his dad, Noble George Richardson, whom we know to have a few antique cars hanging around. George purchased this one at a Richmond auction. It has a 400 ci small block motor.

In his zeal to make the Camaro into the perfect ride, then college student Noble Anthony added a new interior, SS-style exhaust and badging and a new steering wheel, leaving a critical nut off the shaft. Murphy's law intervened, causing the new steering wheel to disengage, resulting in body damage. Anthony stored the car for 15 years, then, older, wiser and wealthier, rebuilt it to look as it does today.

Noble Anthony says that his two children, Kinsley (age 5) and Ryder (age 4) are starting to become antique car fans. Great news, indeed!

If you see Noble Anthony and his Lady, Beth Richardson headed to a parade in their 1968 Camaro, please be sure to wave.

Should you find yourself coming down with a bug for antiques, convertibles or specialty cars, I have bad news and I have good news. The bad news is that there is absolutely no cure. The good new is that the Motor Corps would love to share your addiction. To join us, just let any of us know. I can be reached by telephone at 207-775-7954 or by email at kevin@ktcole.net. Contact me!

It won't be long now until the 2024 parade season starts. Drivers, remember to provide Secretary Russ Falwell with copies of your driver's license and of each of your parade vehicles' registrations and insurance cards at or before the Memorial Day Parade at Old Orchard Beach.

See you on the highway!



## KORA SHRINE BAND

*By Noble Steve Peterson - Sec'y*

Kora Band is pleased to announce our 2024 Officers: President/Unit Director - Noble Cal Yeaton, VP - Noble Mike Guethle, Treasurer - Noble Dave Wellman, Sec'y - Noble Steve Peterson, and Manager - Noble Shane Cote.

The band is looking for new members, so if you have ever played an instrument, we welcome you to join the band unit or just "sit-in" at any of our rehearsals. Even if you are in another unit, we would love to have you sit in with us. We especially need help when it comes to "Shrine Only" events such as our Ceremonials. For civic parades, we can reach out to local musicians to help compliment our numbers. For more details and exact meeting dates contact Steve Peterson (Band Sec'y) at 713-5318 or e-mail at sales@down-east.com.



Kora Band getting ready to play at the 2024 Kora Installation of Officers.



CALLING ALL SHRINERS

WE WANT  
YOU  
FOR KORA  
BAND!

Do you or have you ever play an instrument?  
Do you miss "making sweet music"?

If so, you are invited to come and "sit in" with the band at any of our rehearsals. There is no commitment to join the "Band Unit", so we welcome members from other units. So please feel free to stop by the Band room (at the top of the stairs) and check us out. For more information on our upcoming dates please contact Steve Peterson, (207)713-5318 or email at sales@down-east.com.



## PROVOST

*by Dan Toto, Scribe*

Wow! It has been windy enough to blow the onion domes off a Shrine Temple!

Here we are, 2024, another year in the history books. Illustrious Jim Bennett gets to heave a sigh of relief and Potentate elect Paul Gardiner will grab the reins of the camel and lead us through the dunes to the next oasis. May the passage be free of jackals and scorpions. When I was in college there were students from the middle east who used to recite a prayer every morning before heading off to class. I do not recall it in its entirety so I will paraphrase as best I can. "Protect me from my front, from my back, from my right and my left, and from above me, and I seek refuge in Your Magnificence from being taken unaware from beneath me." Given the events of the past year, maybe this is a valid request.

The Provost Unit had a busy fall season. We kicked off with the business meeting and soon were sitting in class with Noble McAllister as he attempted to teach us the intricacies of the newly installed lighting system.

November opened with the Androscoggin County Shrine Club Turkey Smoker, busy and a lot of fun. The next day was the Fall Ceremonial, and the unit was there in force. We had a week to catch our breath before the Festival of Trees commenced. It was a great week and a lot of fun. It warms the soul to see the expressions on the faces of the little ones when they get to ceremonial hall, the magic of Christmas is alive and well in them. The kitchen crew did a great job keeping us fed.

I got to meet with a couple of brothers and their ladies. They were from NJ and NY, visiting both Anah and Kora to discover how we do the Festival and take that info back home to possibly start their own. Only after they left did I read one of the business cards left on the unit table to discover one of them was the JGW for the GL of NJ. I wish them luck.

Seven days later we were back for the elections and Christmas Party, good luck to the incoming Divan!

Our year ended on a great note. The Unit Christmas party was held in the Oasis on 12/15 and was well attended. It was nice to see brothers back here who have been unable to participate for various reasons. How good and pleasant it is when brothers (and their families) dwell in Unity.....

A loud and heartfelt THANK YOU goes out to the ladies; without your understanding and assistance we would be a poorer unit.

The vote was unanimous to keep our present director, the final say is not for the unit but for the Potentate. Carl Paradis was voted in as Provost of the Year, congratulations Carl, that means you now must attend every event and meeting in 2024.

We have gained many new members to the Unit this year with one coming in in the spring and rumor has it he will affiliate with the medical unit as well. This year I believe we have purchased 6 new badges. We will be purchasing a brick for the statue and a chair for our brother Al who rode off on the black camel; there will be a blue candle in his honor at the Necrology Service.

Potentate Jim Bennett and Past Potentate Robbie McKinley and the IT department have been exceptional in bringing the Unit into the light. We now have an apple tablet which allows the unit members to tie into the building cameras as well as the new ring doorbell at the elevator entrance. Now the provost member at the elevator, or in the case of his presence at specific meetings, can monitor the goings on from anywhere in the building. Just one more layer of protection for the Nobility and the building.

Bring it on 2024, we are ready!

Shriner trivia: The entertainer Danny Thomas was a Shriner. He saw that children with orthopedic concerns were well taken care of by the Shriners, but he wanted to do more and saw that childhood cancer was taking so many children that he founded the St Jude Children's Research Hospital based on the Shrine Hospital plan.

Remember your Blue Lodges. We are all brothers in this together.



## LOG ROLLERS

*by Ron Guptill, Scribe*

First, I want to say sorry to the Logrollers for missing the Sands last time. I was in the hospital and forgot all about it. I will try not to let this happen again.

As you read this Illustrious James Bennett and Lady Deb's year will have come to a close. Thank You James and Deb for a great year.

Congratulations to the new Illustrious Paul Gardner and Lady Michelle to represent Kora in 2024. Looking forward to seeing what they will pull out of their hats this year.

Congratulations to Chris Bonney for winning this year's tree. There were some beautiful trees this year at the FEZtival of Trees.

We had a great parade season in 2023. Looking forward to see if we can have a better 2024 season. Let's hope we have better weather this summer and can enjoy being outside and out for parades. As we are starting to work on the line up.

Great to see that Units Colonel and Logroller Jeff Stowell is out about again. Also, great to know that Heather Mayo is out of the hospital and is doing better also.



## CRAZY COPS

by William Brochu, Scribe

2024 is off and running and with that said, it is going to be a good year to be a Crazy Cop. The unit will be well represented by Illustrious Sir Paul Gardner and Divan Outer Guard Mike Klick. We will work to support these members as much as possible.

During the installation, the financial reports from the many projects and fundraisers were revealed. New records were set in just about all areas. Big events like the Lobster Bowl and Festival of Trees accomplished amazing numbers.

It took more than a few people or even Kora, it took the community and beyond. To hear that the Lobster Bowl, played in Lewiston Maine, is #1 for the entire country, WOW, couldn't be prouder.



So, what does 2024 have in store? I wish I had a crystal ball or Farmer's Almanac at least. Hopefully better weather than 2023. We are going to want to be

outdoors as much as possible and not be stuck inside watching TV. Afterall, how many campaign ads can we tolerate?



## CYCLE CORPS

by Lenny Perkins, Director/Scribe

Well, another year has come and gone. I don't know about any of you, however, I tend to become a bit nostalgic at this time of year, asking myself "where has the time gone?" Within the next couple of years, I will reach my 30th anniversary as a Mason and Shriner, serving with the Kora Cycle Corps the entire time. As I reflect on this journey, I realize what wonderful people I have met along the way, and how proud I am to call members of the Cycle Corps my family.

But enough of this from the heart story! The Cycle Corps has stayed quite busy this fall, helping with the set-up of the fall ceremonial and set-up and take-down of the FEZtival of Trees, as well as the annual meeting in December. We continue to meet monthly if only to keep in touch with each other. We will begin planning for the 2024 parade and event season at our February meeting, it's never too soon to think about getting the bikes out of their winter storage.

I'd like to express a sincere thank you on behalf of the entire group to Noble Bob and Lady Wendy Levesque, for hosting a holiday gathering at their lovely home again this year. We had a great turnout as you can see by the attached photo, lots of good food and great company. I want to also congratulate them on their new adventure of opening an Aroma Joe's franchise in Turner – we wish you much success with many cups of coffee sold!

Last, I want to recognize Noble Steve Sebastyn for taking on the role of Master at Saccarappa Lodge for 2024. Steve follows in the footsteps of almost all of our current Cycle Corps members who have supported their blue lodges by serving as Master. We are quite proud of this tradition of service.

Peace and happiness to all,  
Lenny





## KORA KLOWNS

by Rick "Divot" Green, Scribe



Unlike your New Year's Resolution, the Kora Klowns are following through and committed to making 2024 our best year! Prior to officially releasing the dates of our highly anticipated "2024 PARADE TOUR", we wanted to take a minute to thank a special member and recognize the efforts of the "FEZtival of Trees" committee for another great year.



One of our most anticipated events of the year is the annual "FEZtival of Trees" and this year did not disappoint, as I mentioned earlier, our membership is growing strong and several of us and our ladies were able to help out this year. Although Bernie only allowed a few of us to handle the money, we were really able to represent our unit's commitment to the overall cause of the Temple, especially in the kitchen where the demands appear to be the highest so we sent in our very best!

The start of 2024 will result in a number of changes to our unit with the most immediate being the election of our new officers.

Our new director will be none other than Ryan "Checka" Robitaille, our president will be Kadin "Krafty" Crafts and our secretary will be Max "Chip" Storm. Just one look at these young Klowns and it's almost too hard to believe or even imagine that anything could go wrong, unless of course the divan continues to recruit from within our elite ranks. Overall it was a great year and we are looking forward to what 2024 has in store for all of us.

As always, if you are interested in being part of the coolest Klown Unit at the Temple, please feel free to speak to any one of our KLOWN members or email Ryan "Checka" Robitaille, at [Lisbon52@gmail.com](mailto:Lisbon52@gmail.com).

Over the last three plus years, Joe "Doc Stitches" Cormier has served as the director of our unit and he has been responsible for overseeing our operations and facilitating our regular meetings. Please be assured that although many of you may feel like you have a couple or more clowns in your units, our unit consists entirely of real "Klowns" so conducting one of our meetings is quite similar to herding cats. Throughout all of the stories and shared solutions which involve friends/contacts who would surely help us out to the number of "Pie in the Sky" fundraiser ideas, Joe was always able to handle the challenges. He was also able to help navigate us through COVID and a transition in a new membership group that will help reduce the median age of the temple membership by twenty plus or more years. With that being said, Joe has decided to step down as director and join the ranks of the "Peanut Gallery". On behalf of the entire unit, I want to thank him for his time and service and wish him the best moving forward.





# KORA KARES FUND SCHOLARSHIP



This fund is administered by the Potentate and Board of Directors. A \$500 scholarship will be given each year to a student continuing his/her education. \* To apply, the student should send a letter to the Scholarship Committee detailing plans to further/ continue his/her education. Include the reason he/she selected their field of study and their plans after graduating from an accredited college. Preference will be given to Graduates of Kora Nobles in good standing but is open to any qualified student. The scholarship will be awarded in July and is for the ensuing academic year.

In addition to the letter, please complete the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Is he a Shriner? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Father's and/or Mother's Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

4. If Father is a Shriner, Shrine Center: \_\_\_\_\_ Member No. \_\_\_\_\_

5. To what youth organization affiliated with Freemasonry do (have) you belong(ed)?

(DeMolay, Rainbow, Job's Daughters, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

6. To what other school related groups do you belong? \_\_\_\_\_

7. State briefly you extracurricular school-related interests/activities \_\_\_\_\_

8. Name of accredited school to be attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Address of School: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Which year will you be entering? \_\_\_\_\_ Current GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

11. What career are you pursuing? \_\_\_\_\_

12. If undecided, indicate possible choices: \_\_\_\_\_

13. Additional information you wish to be considered? \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit the following documentation with the application:

- a. Most current copy of high school/ college transcript
- b. At least one confidential letter or recommendation from an instructor, counselor, or advisor.

Please include a brief statement describing your current educational goals and their relationship to your career plans: \_\_\_\_\_

I believe the foregoing statements to be accurate. I hereby pledge any Kora Kares Scholarship monies awarded to me will be used strictly for college expenses such as tuition, supplies, and room and board.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Kora Kare Scholarship aid is a gift, not a loan, and can be based on academic achievement, participation in worthwhile activities, financial need, and self-help. Checks will be issued no later than August 1<sup>st</sup> to the successful applicant(s) and made payable to the student recipient.

*\*Kora Shriners elected Board of Directors reserves the right to issue more than one scholarship based on availability of funds and academic rating of applicants!*

Preference will be given to Scholarship applicants continuing their education in the Medical Field.

Please mail completed application to: Kora Shriners, C/O Scholarship Committee, 11 Sabattus Street, Lewiston, Maine 04240

Completed Applications must be postmarked prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> to receive consideration.



## GREETERS UNIT

*By Marc Gilbert, Scribe*

As I write this, Southern Maine is receiving its first major snow fall. Winter has been late coming this year, and as most seasoned Mainers are thinking, I hope we don't have to pay too dearly for this in the coming months. I once was an avid winter sports enthusiast with smelting, ice fishing, snowmobiling, skiing, and snow shoeing taking the lead. Now my winter sports consist of shoveling, snow blowing, winter driving and roof raking. Somehow my passions have changed to the bare necessities...I think I need a change of priorities. And that is where the Greeters help me out. The Unit is always pulling me into some type of fun activity.

In the past we have made outings to the Cabbage Island Clambake supporting the Shrine and Bay View Lodge. The Unit has also been a fixture at the Ride In, the Lobster Bowl, the FEZtival of Trees, the Summer Ceremonial and the Winter Ceremonial. We take our direction from the Potentate. And what fun it has been. Our most recent event came with helping out at the FEZtival of Trees. It is such a joy to see the children's faces as the Grinch approaches or when they sit on Santa or Mrs. Clause's lap for a photo. These events are truly at the heart of the Greeters and Kora Shrine. I want to thank the Shrine and all members of our Unit for making these memorable events that are possible for the community and myself to enjoy.

I also want to welcome Doug Smith to the Greeters unit. I'm sure Doug is going to enjoy our antics and comradery. With Jason Davis at the helm of the Greeter's Unit and Crawford Perry at the stern, I know the future is bright. Both of these fine Nobles have a way of embracing the community and making members of Kora feel welcomed. I am grateful for their strong sense of duty, commitment and fun.

When we enter the Shrine, it is important for all of us to remember our mission. Kora exists to help the children and to have fun doing so. I say bring the family along. Bring the family to the Ride-In or the Lobster Bowl or the FEZtival of Trees. There is so little family time left today; it can be a struggle to find events of interest.

I went through Ceremonial with my son. I was one of the privileged parents that actually had a son that requested to join me in my journey of becoming a Mason and a Shriner. I know this is not often the case. I want to take this opportunity to thank him for sharing this adventure with me. Thank you, Andy! If we could all be so lucky.

If you are looking for a way to become involved with the Shrine or our Unit, reach out to me, Marc Gilbert, at 207-284-6257. We are always looking for a few good Nobles to join in on the fun!



From left to right, Anita Drake, Bob Drake and Paul Dupuis helping out at the Festival of Trees.

## REFER A GOOD MAN

Are you currently a Shriner? Our JustOne Referral program is designed for active Shriners to refer men of great character who are interested in learning more about becoming a Shriner Mason.

Simply gather the Shriner prospect's contact information and submit it directly to your Shrine Center via email or WebFez. They will take care of the rest.

Please remember that the best way to introduce potential new members to Shriners' fun, fellowship and philanthropy, is to invite them to hospital/facility tours, fundraisers and other special chapter events. Help others expand the quality of their life and their masonic mission with a JustOne referral.



## KORA KAMPERS

by Alan Collins, Secretary

Greetings Nobles, families, & friends,

Kora Kampers would like to say hello to everyone. We would also like to congratulate our outgoing leadership from last year and would also like to welcome our new leadership and wish them a great year. We all need to pull together so that we can make this year and our future years fun.

With that being said, let me share some of the upcoming activitis we have planned as a group.

~ March 10th mid-winter meeting/ lunch... to be held at Kora Temple. Fun, Food, & Fellowship to take place.

~ May 17th – 19th Kora Kampers Spring camping weekend @ Bayleys Camping Resort. Be sure to make your reservation early as they always book up fast. These camping weekends are known to be fun with lots of laughter.

~ May 31st – June 2nd Northeast Camel Caravan camping weekend @ Bayleys Camping Resort. Get ready to have fun, share stories and laughter with nobles and families from other temples in the Northeast region.

We are always talking about new ideas of things to do and where to camp, as we want to get out and try new areas. If you have a favorite activity or camping spot... share with us so we can get a gathering together and we can continue making memories as a group. Also if you know of or are a noble/family that wants to get together and have fun... get to me and I will make sure to get you on our email list and get you setup as a member.

If you want to know more about the Kora Kampers and what we are all about, please reach out as I would be happy to talk to you about our group. I can be reached at korakampers@gmail.com or by calling 207.240.6534.

Lets have a great year everyone,

Alan Collins

207.240.6534



*~Working Together to Become Stronger~*

# Kora Kampers Association Application Form

**Noble:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Noble's Lady:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Birthday Dates:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Type/Size of Camper:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Application Fee: \$5.00  
must be included with application.  
Annual Dues: \$10.00 for individual  
or \$15.00 for couple.  
Lifetime Membership Fee: \$150.00



Payable to Kora Kampers Association.  
Return Payment to:  
Noble Alan Collins  
Kora Kampers Secretary  
27 Katie Avenue, Lewiston, ME 04240-2540  
korakampers@gmail.com  
207.240.6534



# KORA KAMPERS

**Fun ♦ Food ♦ Fundraising ♦ Fellowship**



This association is voluntary, family oriented, unincorporated association formed for social purposes and the promotion of good fellowship among the members of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Mystic Shrine, their wives and families. This association shall profess an allegiance to the Kora Shiners and it's Potentate.

**PAID N MASTER**

**DAN BEARDSLEY**

**207.785.5114**

**Dbeard2015@roadrunner.com**

**SECRETARY**

**ALAN COLLINS**

**207.240.6534**

**korakampers@gmail.com**



# *The Black Camel*

**January through December 31, 2023**

*Please note: We continue to receive notification of Nobles passing in previous months but will include them in the Necrology when received*



Stacy D. Ballard  
 Alphonso T. Barker  
 Richard A. Barrows  
 James S. Barstow  
 Vernon A. Bartz  
 Gene H. Bell  
 John L. Berrill  
 Ill Richard V. Bibber, P.P. KORA 1997  
 John L. Bouchard  
 Leslie H. Bridges  
 Edward H. Brooks, III  
 William F. Bryant  
 Harold A. Clough  
 Charles E. Cogswell, Jr  
 Ralph E. Colson  
 Lloyd F. Coombs, Jr  
 Thomas H. Cushman  
 Robert A. Dunphy  
 Rosaire A. Duquette  
 Charles M. Foote, Jr.  
 Edward F. Goodwin  
 George G. Grafton  
 Eugene A. Groleau  
 George V. Hall  
 David A. Hawke  
 David L. Hinkley  
 Karl S. Hooper  
 John S. Houston  
 John G. Hoyt  
 Jacques L. Jolicoeur  
 John W. Kelley  
 Montell C. Kennedy

George R. Kimball  
 Normand G. Laliberte  
 Robert A. Lincicome  
 Harry M. Lowd, III  
 Robert N. Michaud  
 Frank C. Mitchell  
 Francis J. Mooney, Jr  
 Eldon L. Morrison  
 Philip E. Myers, Sr  
 Paul E. Neidlinger  
 Sheridan A. Nickerson  
 Todd P. Olfene  
 Paul H. Page  
 Fred H. Perry  
 Manuel I. Plavin  
 Robert B. Plummer  
 Abraham Saphier  
 William Sawyer  
 Carroll G. Scribner, P.P. Sahib 2016  
 Bradford L. Slye  
 Ralph G. Smith  
 Earl R. Smith  
 Ronald E. Stewart  
 Harland E. Storey, Sr  
 Orville T. Swett  
 Ralph L. Sylvester  
 Douglas A. Taft  
 John L. Wilbur  
 William C. Winchenbach, Jr  
 Donald R. Wood  
 John E. Woodbury

**"DEATH IS A BLACK CAMEL THAT KNEELS UNBIDDEN AT EVERY GATE"**



# PETITION FOR INITIATION AND MEMBERSHIP

## SHRINERS

TO THE POTENTATE, OFFICERS AND NOBLES OF \_\_\_\_\_ SHRINERS,  
SITUATED IN THE OASIS OF \_\_\_\_\_, DESERT OF:  
\_\_\_\_\_:

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I am a Master Mason in good standing in \_\_\_\_\_  
Lodge # \_\_\_\_\_ located at \_\_\_\_\_  
*City**State*

which is a Lodge recognized by or in amity with the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. Furthermore, I have resided at my current address for not less than 6 months, as required by the Bylaws of The Imperial Council. I respectfully pray that I may be made a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, and become a member of your temple.

If I be found worthy, and my request granted, I promise to conform to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of The Imperial Council and the Bylaws and Ceremonies of your temple.

Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Were you ever a DeMolay? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, what was the Chapter name and location? \_\_\_\_\_

Profession or occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously applied for admission to any temple of the Order? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, what temple? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Street**City**County**State**ZIP*

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Street**City**County**State**ZIP*

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Wife's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Full Name Here \_\_\_\_\_  
*Name in full, initials not sufficient*

Recommended and Vouched for on the Honor of Noble \_\_\_\_\_

Noble \_\_\_\_\_

Fez size: \_\_\_\_\_ Method of payment \_\_\_\_\_

*Downloaded from <http://www.shrinershq.org>*



## KORA SHRINE BOOSTERS

### A

Allen, Lonnie & Beverly 12/24  
In Memory of Laurence S. Allen, Sr.  
Anonymous 11/30

### B

Barden, Thomas & Christine 12/24  
In Memory of "Pop" Gilbert  
Bonney, Charles & Sharon 2/24  
Bragdon, Wally 2/24  
In Memory of his wife, Dolly

### C

Carlin, Kenneth C. 11/23  
In Memory of Doris Groves Carlin  
Coombs, Lloyd & Collette 07/23  
Cote, David & Donna 5/24  
Crane, Bob & Diane 10/24  
Cullen, Kevin D. 01/29

### D

Desgrosseilliers, Edward H. 11/24  
In Memory of Sheila Desgrosseilliers /  
George F Herrick Sr.

### E

Erickson, Bucky 11/24  
In Memory of his wife Nancy

### F

Fales, Eileen M 12/25  
Fales, Thomas H 12/25  
Farrington, Mrs. Albert 8/24  
Feyler, Jay 6/26

### G

Gardner, Paul & Michelle 04/24  
Gellatly, Joan 01/26  
In Memory of Oriel F. "Bud" Gellatly  
Grafton, George & Ruth 05/25

### H

Hall, Bunky & Marion 12/24  
Head, David A. 11/24  
In Memory of Rep. Frances M. Head  
Herrick Jr., George & Terri 07/24  
Hersom, Liz 6/24  
In Memory of Rick Hersom, P.P. 2015  
& 2019

### I

Irish, Barry & Debbie 5/26  
Irish, Claire 5/28  
In Memory of Richard "Dick" Irish

### J

Jordan, Bob & Harlean 2/24

### K

Kearley, Roland 12/24  
In memory of Janice Kearley  
Kinneer, Claudia 12/25

### L

Lewis, Richard & Diana 11//23  
Lord, John & Barbara 11/26  
Lovett, Walter 2/24  
In Memory of Honorable Glenys Lovett

### M

Macomber, Bruce 12/23  
In Memory of Viola Macomber  
In Memory of Alden Macomber  
In Honor of Peg Macomber  
McDonough, John & Helene 5/24  
McKenna, Bob & Jean 12/25  
McKinley, Robbie & Debbie 8/23  
McWilliam, Robert & Karen 6/24  
Melvin, David B. 8/25  
Mitchell, Frank & Ruth 6/25  
Moore, Kevin & Brenda 11/26  
Morgan, Robert 11/24  
In Memory of Marilyn Morgan

### P

Perkins, Laurence & Nancy 4/25  
Perry, Crawford & Kathe 4/24

### R

Ridlon, Chuck & Sally 1/24  
Roy, Michael & Tracey 09/27  
Ryan, Thomas & Jackie 08/24

### S

Saunders, Jim & Diane 11/24  
Simmons, Jim & Priscilla 08/24

### W

Welch, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Frank P. 12/27  
Wellman, David & Karen 06/24  
In Memory of Jerry Brooks

### ONE YEAR BOOSTER RATES

One line (single name or Mr. & Mrs.) is \$20.00. If you want your name and your Lady's name on separate lines, it is \$30 for two lines.

Make check payable to:

Kora Shrine Center, 11 Sabattus  
Street, Lewiston, ME 04240-7090

If you have enrolled as a Kora Sands  
Booster and your name has not been  
listed, please notify the Kora office and  
the situation will be corrected.

### KORA SANDS BOOSTER SIGN UP

Name (s):

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Check Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Kora Shriners  
A.A.O.N.M.S.

John Knox, P.P., Recorder  
11 Sabattus Street  
Lewiston, ME 04240-7090

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
PERMIT NO. 275



Kora Shrine First Responders & Families Breakfast  
Saturday December 16, 2023  
KORA KONNECT PROJECT &  
MAINE MASONIC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED THE KORA KONNECT PROJECT FOR 200 FIRST RESPONDERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS WHO CAME TO KORA FOR BREAKFAST.

IN THE PHOTO TO THE RIGHT IS KORA KONNECT MEMBER NOBLE BERNIE MCALLISTER-GRAND MASTER DAN BARTLETT-LEWISTON POLICE CHIEF DAVID ST. PIERRE-LISBON POLICE CHIEF RYAN MCGEE AND POTENTATE JIM BENNETT.

THE TWO CHIEFS WERE PRESENTED A CHALLENGE COIN FROM GRAND LODGE OF MAINE FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP FOLLOWING THE OCTOBER 25TH MASS SHOOTING.

